

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 013266
ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /013 R

DRAFTED BY EA/K:RGRICH:FLW
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P 180004Z JAN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 013266

FOR AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OTRA (SNEIDER, RICHARD L.), PFOR, KS, US

SUBJECT: ABSENCEOF AMBASSADOR

REF: SEOUL 355

1. YOUR ABSENCE FROM KOREA TO TRAVEL TO JAPAN JANUARY 24
TO FEBRUARY 1 IS APPROVED.

2. WITH REGARD TO YOUR INVITATION TO ROK AMBASSADOR KIM
FOR LUNCH ON JANUARY 23, KIM PRESENTLY PLANS TO ARRIVE IN
SEOUL ABOUT NINE A.M. MONDAY, JANUARY 23. HE IS SCHEDULED
TO GO DIRECTLY TO THE BLUE HOUSE FOR A MEETING WITH
PRESIDENT PARK WHICH, ON THE BASIS OF PAST EXPERIENCE, HE
BELIEVES MAY EXTEND THROUGH LUNCH. THE AMBASSADOR INFORMS
US THAT HE DOES WISH TO SEE YOU BEFORE YOUR DEPARTURE
FOR JAPAN THE NEXT MORNING, HOWEVER, AND HE WILL HAVE THE
FOREIGN MINISTRY INFORM YOU AS SOON AS THE BLUE HOUSE
SCHEDULE IS CONFIRMED. IF LUNCHEON BECOMES IMPOSSIBLE, KIM
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SUGGESTS THAT HE JOIN YOU AT TEATIME.

3. I DO BELIEVE THAT IT WILL BE IMPORTANT FOR YOU TO HAVE
A SUBSTANTIVE EXCHANGE WITH KIM BEFORE YOUR DEPARTURE. BY
SEPTTEL WE ARE PROVIDING YOU WITH A REVIEW OF OUR DIALOGUE
HERE THESE PAST FEW DAYS. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMBASSADORS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE013266
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RGRICH:FLW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780026-0304
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780149/aaaabpik.tel
Line Count: 61
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 90fc3be2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: 78 SEOUL 355
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3753484
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ABSENCEOF AMBASSADOR
TAGS: OTRA, PFOR, KS, US, (SNEIDER, RICHARD L)
To: SEOUL
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/90fc3be2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014